TrendLineTrader

Trendline Touch Auto-Trading Strategy for NinjaTrader 8

User Manual & License Activation Guide

Lifetime License — $49.95

Please read this guide before requesting support — most questions are answered below.

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1. What TrendLineTrader Does

TrendLineTrader is a NinjaTrader 8 strategy that watches trendlines on your chart — either ones you draw by hand, or ones it detects automatically from swing highs and lows — and automatically places a trade the moment price touches one, using the trade rules you configure.

Every part of how it trades is controlled from the strategy's Parameters panel: which lines to watch, which direction to trade, position size, stop loss, profit target, trailing stop, breakeven, daily trade limits, session time filtering, an on-chart status panel, an optional stochastic-based Safety Net Exit, and an optional Quad Rotation confirmation filter.

The strategy reacts on every price tick, not just when a candle closes — touches are detected the moment price reaches a line, and entries use a limit order placed exactly at the line's price by default, so fills happen at (or better than) the line instead of drifting away from it.

> ***Note:*** *This manual assumes you already have NinjaTrader 8 installed and are familiar with adding a strategy to a chart. If you're new to NinjaTrader, their own "Getting Started" guide covers the basics of charts and Sim accounts.*

2. Installing TrendLineTrader

1. Close NinjaTrader 8 completely if it's open.
2. Open NinjaTrader 8 again, then go to Tools → Import → NinjaScript Add-On.
3. Browse to the file you downloaded (a .zip file) and select it.
4. Click Import. NinjaTrader will confirm the install and may ask you to restart.
5. Restart NinjaTrader 8 if prompted.

> ***Note:*** *If Import gives an error, make sure you didn't unzip the file first — import the .zip exactly as downloaded.*

3. Activating Your License

Your lifetime license key was emailed to you at the time of purchase. The strategy will not place trades until a valid key is entered.

6. Add TrendLineTrader to a chart (see Section 4 below).
7. In the Parameters window, scroll to the "6. License" group.
8. Paste your license key exactly as received into the License Key field.
9. Click OK. The strategy checks the key automatically — no restart needed.

> ***Note:*** *If you see "Strategy disabled - invalid license" in the NinjaScript Output window (New → NinjaScript Output), double-check for extra spaces before/after the key, or reach out to support with your order confirmation.*

Your license is good for lifetime use on your own account(s). Please don't share your key — sharing may result in the key being deactivated.

4. Adding the Strategy to a Chart

10. Open the chart for the instrument and timeframe you want to trade.
11. Right-click the chart and choose Strategies...
12. Click New, then select TrendLineTrader from the list.
13. Set your parameters (see Section 6 for what each one does), and enter your License Key.
14. Choose the account you want it to trade on. Use Sim101 while you're testing.
15. Check the Enabled box and click OK.

The strategy is now live and will evaluate every bar close for a trendline touch, based on your settings.

> ***Note:*** *To turn it off at any time, reopen Strategies from the chart, uncheck Enabled, and click OK.*

5. Drawing Trendlines It Will Trade

TrendLineTrader can watch three kinds of hand-drawn lines from NinjaTrader's own drawing toolbar, plus an auto-detected mode:

- Trend Line — a sloped line between two points.
- Extended Line — same as a trend line, but visually extended further.
- Horizontal Line — a flat support/resistance level.
- Trend Channel — the two parallel boundary lines are watched as independently tradeable levels, with optional Exit/Reverse behavior between them (see below).
- Auto (built-in) — the strategy draws its own lines from recent swing highs/lows; useful if you don't want to draw anything yourself, and the only mode that can be properly backtested in Strategy Analyzer.

Draw your line(s) directly on the chart the strategy is running on. It re-reads all drawn lines every bar, so you can add, move, or delete lines at any time while it's running — no need to restart the strategy.

> ***Note:*** *If you keep other reference lines on your chart that you don't want traded, name your tradeable lines with a consistent word (e.g. "TL1") and enter that word in the Manual Tag Filter setting so only matching lines are watched.*

When Color-Code Lines By Status is on (the default), any line the strategy is actively watching turns green. If it hits its Max Uses Per Line limit, it turns gray to show it's retired and will no longer trigger trades until you move or redraw it.

> ***Note:*** *Green means "being watched," not "a trade happened." A line turns green the moment the strategy recognizes it — usually the very next bar after you draw it — regardless of whether price ever touches it. Don't read a color change as a signal; check your position (Chart Trader, the Strategies tab, or the on-chart status panel) to see whether a trade actually fired.*

Auto-detected lines use their own fixed colors that are unrelated to the green/gray status system: orange always means the auto-detected resistance line, and blue (DodgerBlue) always means the auto-detected support line. If you're running Trendline Source = Both, you'll see your own hand-drawn lines (green/gray) alongside the strategy's auto lines (orange/blue) at the same time — they can sit close together and be easy to mix up. Double-click any line to see its name/tag; auto lines are named AutoTL_Resistance or AutoTL_Support.

Trend Channel behavior

A Trend Channel draws two parallel boundary lines. By default (Channel Opposite-Line Action = None), both boundaries just act as two independent lines, same as anything else. Two other modes are available:

- Exit On Opposite — if a trade was opened from one boundary of a channel, it's automatically closed the moment price reaches the opposite boundary of that same channel (regardless of your stop/target).
- Reverse On Opposite — same as above, but instead of just closing, it immediately flips into the opposite direction from that opposite boundary. This effectively lets you trade the channel back and forth automatically — long off the bottom, short off the top, long again off the bottom, and so on.

> ***Note:*** *This behavior is specific to the Trend Channel drawing tool. Plain Trend Lines, Extended Lines, and Horizontal Lines have no "opposite boundary" concept and are unaffected by this setting.*

Quad Rotation Confirmation

When Require Quad Rotation Confirmation is on, a trendline touch only counts as a trade if all four of the following stochastic bands are simultaneously overbought or simultaneously oversold at that exact moment, using each band's %D (signal) line:

- 9-3
- 14-3
- 40-4
- 60-10

Both conditions have to be true on the same tick — price touching the line, AND all four bands aligned. There is no "memory" of a touch: if price touches the line but the bands aren't aligned at that instant, that touch is simply ignored. It does not queue up and fire later if the bands happen to align afterward. Price has to touch the line again while the bands are aligned.

> ***Note:*** *This is intentionally a strict, narrow condition, since it's requiring two independent things — a specific price level and four different indicators all agreeing — to line up at the same moment. Going a while without a Quad Rotation trade is expected, not necessarily a sign of a problem. If you want to confirm the base trendline logic is working while you wait, temporarily turn this setting off, verify normal touches produce trades, then turn it back on.*

When this filter is on, the status panel shows a live readout of all four band values and whether they're currently confirmed, e.g. "Quad: 45/38/52/41 (waiting)" or "(CONFIRMED)", so you can watch them approach alignment in real time.

6. Settings Reference

Trendline Source

Setting	Default	What it does
Trendline Source	Both	ManualOnly = only your drawn lines. AutoOnly = only auto-detected swing lines. Both = watch everything.
Manual Tag Filter	(blank)	Only watches drawn lines whose name contains this text. Leave blank to watch all drawn lines.
Touch Tolerance (ticks)	2	How close price needs to come to the line (in ticks) to count as a touch.
Max Uses Per Line (0 = unlimited)	0	After a specific line has been traded this many times, it stops triggering new entries until you move or redraw it. 0 means no limit.
Color-Code Lines By Status	On	Tints a watched line green while it's still eligible to trade, and gray once Max Uses Per Line has retired it. Applies to both drawn and auto-detected lines.
Channel Opposite-Line Action	None	Trend Channel lines only. None = both boundaries act independently. Exit On Opposite = closes the trade when price reaches the channel's other boundary. Reverse On Opposite = closes and flips direction at the other boundary.
Entry Order Type	LimitAtLine	Market = fires immediately, can fill away from the line on a fast-moving touch. LimitAtLine = places a limit order exactly at the line's price, so it only fills at that price or better — but may not fill at all if price doesn't return to that exact level.
Limit Order Timeout (bars)	3	If a LimitAtLine entry hasn't filled within this many bars, it's automatically cancelled so the strategy can evaluate other touches instead of leaving a stale order sitting at a price the line has since moved away from.
Require Quad Rotation Confirmation	Off	Only takes a trendline touch as a trade if all four stochastic bands (9-3, 14-3, 40-4, 60-10) are simultaneously overbought or simultaneously

Setting	Default	What it does
		oversold at that exact moment. See the dedicated section below.
Quad Rotation Overbought Level	80	Threshold all four bands must meet or exceed together for the overbought side of the filter.
Quad Rotation Oversold Level	20	Threshold all four bands must meet or fall below together for the oversold side of the filter.

> ***Note:*** *Deleting a trendline from the chart removes it from the strategy's watch list on the very next bar — it will not keep triggering trades after you delete it. If you delete and later redraw an identical line, it's treated as a new line with a fresh use count.*
>
> ***Note:*** *Disabling and re-enabling the strategy does NOT require you to redraw your lines — they're chart objects independent of the strategy and get picked back up automatically on the next bar. However, Max Uses Per Line counts are only tracked in memory while the strategy is running, so a line that had been retired (gray) will reset to fully available (green) again after a disable/re-enable cycle.*

Auto Trendline Settings

Setting	Default	What it does
Swing Strength (bars)	5	How many bars on each side confirm a swing high/low. Higher = fewer, more significant lines.
Swing Points To Remember	4	How many recent swing points are kept in memory to build lines from.
Draw Auto Trendlines On Chart	On	Whether the auto-detected lines are actually drawn so you can see them.

Trade Direction

Setting	Default	What it does
Direction Mode	AutoBounce	LongOnly / ShortOnly force one side. AutoBounce trades reversals off the line. AutoBreakout trades through the line instead.

Position Sizing & Risk

Setting	Default	What it does
Use Risk % Position Sizing	Off	When on, position size is calculated from your account size and stop distance instead of a fixed quantity.
Risk % Of Account Per Trade	1.0	Percent of account value risked per trade, if risk-based sizing is on.
Fixed Quantity	1	Contracts/shares per trade when risk-based sizing is off.
Stop Loss (ticks)	20	Distance from entry to your stop, in ticks.
Profit Target (ticks)	40	Distance from entry to your profit target, in ticks.

Setting	Default	What it does
Use Trailing Stop Instead Of Fixed	Off	Replaces the fixed stop with a trailing stop.
Trailing Stop (ticks)	15	Trail distance, in ticks, if trailing stop is on.
Use Breakeven Stop	Off	Moves your stop to breakeven (plus offset) once price moves in your favor by the trigger distance.
Breakeven Trigger (ticks)	20	How far price must move in your favor before the stop is moved.
Breakeven Offset (ticks)	2	How far past your entry price the stop is moved (locks in a small profit).

Trade Management & Filters

Setting	Default	What it does
Max Trades Per Day	3	Hard cap on new entries per calendar day. Resets at midnight.
Use Session Time Filter	Off	Restricts trading to a specific time window.
Session Start / End Hour & Minute	9:30 – 16:00	The time window used when the session filter is on (24-hour clock).
Flatten At Session End	Off	Automatically closes any open position the moment the session window ends.

License

Setting	Default	What it does
License Key	(blank)	Your purchased license key. The strategy will not trade without a valid key entered here.

Display

Setting	Default	What it does
Show On-Chart Status Panel	On	Draws a small live status readout on the chart showing license state, position, trades today, session status, and (if enabled) the Safety Net stochastic reading.
Status Panel Position	TopRight	Which corner of the chart the status panel is drawn in.

Safety Net Exit

An optional failsafe, direction-aware: a long position is closed the instant stochastics reach the Overbought level; a short position is closed the instant stochastics reach the Oversold level. It does not react to the opposite extreme — a long moving into oversold territory is what your regular stop loss is for, not the safety net. This is independent of, and in addition to, your regular stop/target.

> ***Note:*** *The strategy reacts on every price tick, not just on candle closes, so Safety Net Exit can trigger on a brief intrabar spike that reverses moments later — not only on a sustained, confirmed move. This is a tradeoff for faster, more responsive touch detection overall.*

Setting	Default	What it does
Use Safety Net Exit	Off	Turns the stochastic-based failsafe exit on or off.
Stochastic %K Period	9	Lookback period for the raw stochastic calculation.
Stochastic %D Smoothing	3	Smoothing period applied to %K to produce the %D reading that's actually monitored.
Overbought Exit Level (closes longs)	80	A long position is closed if the stochastic reading rises to or above this level.
Oversold Exit Level (closes shorts)	22	A short position is closed if the stochastic reading falls to or below this level.

7. Recommended Testing Steps

16. Add the strategy to a Sim101 chart first — never start on a live account.
17. Use Replay mode with a few days of data loaded, draw your trendlines, and watch how it reacts in real time.
18. Try each Direction Mode to see how entries change on the same touches.
19. Once you're comfortable with its behavior, move to live Sim trading (not Replay) for a few sessions before considering a funded account.

> ***Note:*** *Manually drawn trendlines can only be read while the strategy is attached to a live or replay chart — they are not available in Strategy Analyzer backtests. Use Auto mode if you want a historical backtest.*

8. Troubleshooting

It didn't trade when price touched my line

- Check Trendline Source isn't set to AutoOnly if you drew the line by hand.
- Check your Manual Tag Filter isn't excluding your line's name.
- Confirm you're not already in a position — it holds one position at a time.
- Confirm you haven't hit Max Trades Per Day.
- If Use Session Time Filter is on, confirm you're inside that window.
- It only evaluates on bar close, not mid-bar — give the current bar time to finish.

"Strategy disabled - invalid license" in the Output window

- Re-check your License Key for extra spaces or a missing character.
- Confirm you're using the key from your original purchase email.
- Contact support if the key still won't validate.

I don't see stop/target lines on the chart

- Enable Chart Trader: right-click the chart → Chart Trader.
- Check chart Properties → General → order/position display options are turned on.

My trade closed before hitting my stop or target

- Check whether Use Safety Net Exit is turned on — it closes a long once stochastics reach the Overbought level, or a short once stochastics reach the Oversold level, independent of stop/target.

- The status panel shows the live stochastic reading when Safety Net Exit is enabled, so you can watch it approach the trigger level in real time.

A line I deleted keeps triggering trades

- The strategy re-reads every drawn line each bar, so a deleted line stops being watched on the very next bar close — give it one bar to catch up.
- If you want a line to stop trading after a set number of uses instead of deleting it, use Max Uses Per Line.

A retired (gray) line turned green again on its own

- This happens if the strategy was disabled and re-enabled — Max Uses Per Line counts only exist in memory while the strategy is running, so they reset to zero every time it restarts.
- Your trend lines themselves are unaffected by disabling/re-enabling — only the use-count tracking resets, not the lines.

I don't see any trades on the chart

- Chart markers aren't the source of truth — check actual trade history via right-click the chart → Strategies → your instance → Performance tab, or New → Strategy Performance from the main menu.
- If Require Quad Rotation Confirmation is on, remember it's an intentionally strict, rare condition (see the Quad Rotation Confirmation section) — going a while without a trade doesn't necessarily mean something's wrong. Temporarily turn it off to confirm the base trendline logic is working.
- Confirm Chart Trader / order-and-position display is turned on if you specifically expect visual markers on the chart itself.

My line turned green — did it just trade?

- No. Green only means the strategy recognized the line and is watching it — it turns green as soon as you draw it, whether or not price ever reaches it.
- To confirm whether a trade actually fired, check Chart Trader, the Strategies tab, or the on-chart status panel's Position line.
- If a line looks blue or orange instead of green/gray, that's one of the strategy's own auto-detected lines (blue = support, orange = resistance), not your hand-drawn line — those colors are fixed and don't change with trade activity.

9. Support

If you run into anything not covered here, reach out with your order confirmation and a description of what you're seeing (screenshots help).

Support contact: [ADD YOUR SUPPORT EMAIL HERE]

Thanks for picking up TrendLineTrader — happy trading.